LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1 to 13 (Canceled).

14. (Previously Presented) An atomizer nozzle for a fuel, comprising:

a nozzle body having an upper end and a lower end including spray-discharge orifices for discharging into a metering space and including at least one metering aperture situated at the upper end of the nozzle body, wherein:

the spray-discharge orifices are situated, with a radial directional component with respect to a center axis of the nozzle body, at elevation steps, and

each elevation step includes at least one of the spray-discharge orifices; and at least one nozzle body insert including at least one flow-through opening and being situated in the nozzle body downstream of the at least one metering aperture at least one of in front of a first of the elevation steps in a direction of fuel flow and between the elevation steps.

- 15. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the atomizer nozzle is for charging a chemical reformer for obtaining hydrogen.
- 16. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the nozzle body includes a hollow cylinder.
- 17. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the nozzle body includes a gas supply port situated in the nozzle body between the first of the elevation steps in the direction of fuel flow and the at least one metering aperture.
- 18. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: downstream of a last of the elevation steps in the direction of fuel flow, at least one additional spray-discharge orifice is situated with an axial directional component with respect to the center axis of the nozzle body.
- 19. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the at least one nozzle body insert is at least one of pressed and welded to the nozzle body in a hydraulically leak-proof manner.

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- 20. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the at least one nozzle body insert is laser welded to the nozzle body in a hydraulically leak-proof manner.
- 21. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: a center axis of the at least one flow-through opening of the at least one nozzle body insert runs parallel to the center axis of the nozzle body.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the at least one nozzle body insert has a rectangular cross-section.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the at least one nozzle body insert is concavely retracted from the at least one flow-through opening toward the nozzle body against the direction of fuel flow.
- 24. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the at least one nozzle body insert is concavely retracted from the at least one flow-through opening toward the nozzle body in the direction of fuel flow.
- 25. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: a cross-section of the at least one flow-through opening is one of rectangular and trapezoidal.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the at least one flow-through opening has at least two uniform cross-sections of different size.
- 27. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the at least one flow-through opening has at least two uniform cross-sections of different size corresponding to a stepped bore hole.
- 28. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 14, wherein: the nozzle body includes at least one section of reduced wall thickness in an axial profile thereof.
- 29. (Previously Presented) The atomizer nozzle as recited in Claim 28, wherein: the at least one section of reduced wall thickness runs in an area of an elevation step.

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